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Farrowing House for sows.



This farrowing house for sows was designed at North Carolina State University. It is intended to provide sanitary and comfortable shelter for the animals in mild climates and to reduce labor requirements for the herdsman.

The plan features a single row of farrowing stalls, with creeps, which are supported on concrete slats over a water-filled pit. As shown in the detail drawing, the house will accommodate 25 sows at one time, but the capacity may be changed as desired. Commercially made stalls and creeps will differ slightly in width and so may affect the required length of the pit. The design of the slats makes them self-spacing, and they provide a slotted floor along each side of the pit so liquid and solid wastes will pass into the pit. The pit may be drained periodically into a lagoon or other means of disposal. The ends of the slats must be set on a thin bed of mortar and have mortar between them to maintain the proper spacing. For easier cleaning, the slats may be modified to give a fully slotted floor, with $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch slots in the center area as well as the 1-inch slots at each end of the slats. This is done by reducing the width of the center portion of the slats to $4\frac{5}{8}$ inches. With the additional slots, supplemental heat will probably be required in addition to the heat lamps over the creeps. At farrowing time and for about 2 days after, the slots

behind the sow should be covered to keep the pigs out of them. After this time the slots can be uncovered.

The building is of pole-type construction with one open sidewall which should face due south. A roll-down curtain on this wall and hinged panels in the north wall are used to regulate the airflow through the building. Although planned for use during warm weather, the house could be modified for year-round farrowing. Multiple farrowing, with the resulting increase in production, reduces the per-pig cost of the farrowing house.

A large-scale working drawing may be obtained from the extension agricultural engineer at your State university. There may be a small charge to cover cost of printing. If you do not know the location of your State university, send your request to Agricultural Engineer, Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. He will forward your request to the correct university. Order Plan No. 6076, FARROWING HOUSE FOR SOWS.

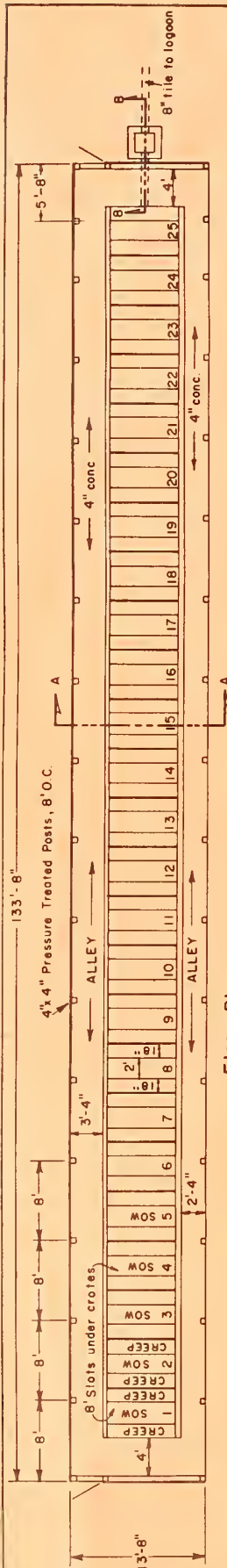
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